



Cygnets Model Boat Club Maidstone

Ronnie Richardson Sail Trophy 2008 - Round 7

Report by Peter Clayton, thank you Peter.

Sunday 5th October dawned raining and a good wind blowing – apart from the rain a good day racing seemed “on the cards”

Although it was still raining the course was prepared and at the due starting time a meeting of the skippers was held and although it was still raining the majority wanted the race meeting to take place.

Derek Filmer had decided he would like to race a Class B boat instead of his usual Marblehead and had made arrangements to borrow Dave Chalk’s ETNZ but unfortunately a breakage on the boat meant he could not. To the rescue came Greg. Chalk who offered Derek his spare boat, a Voyager, and the start of the racing was delayed a few minutes whilst the boat was rigged.

Race One got underway in the continuing rain and squally weather – there was no problem with the “15 minute rule” and so the race was on. In Class A Nick Clayton had a comfortable win followed by Dave Tucker and Paul Cooper. In Class B the “big boys” of Messer’s Sisley, Harding and Chalk D and now joined by Derek Filmer were really a having a good go at each other and some exciting racing was being played out on the water in front of us but at the end of the five laps line honours went to Anthony Sisley with Dave Chalk second and Chris Harding third. Derek Filmer finished fourth and in the break between races was determined to “tighten a few things up” to make himself more competitive.

And so to Race 2 – the rain had eased off but there was still a reasonable amount of breeze and a good race seemed in the offing. The fleet was on its way and again there was no problem with the “15 minute rule” and then the wind suddenly dropped completely. It was so sudden and so frustrating for the skippers, and now the “30 minute rule” was going to come into play. It was duly implemented and the race positions were determined by the positions of the yachts out on the course. Nicholas Clayton again took line honours in Class A followed by Dave Tucker and Paul Cooper. The wind had dropped so much that Nicholas had only just started his third lap when time was called. In Class B, at the end of the thirty minutes, Derek Filmer was in the lead followed by Chris Harding, David Chalk. Les May and in fifth position Anthony Sisley. The leading yachts in Class B were all well into their third lap when time was called.

The skippers agreed to wait approximately thirty minutes before the start of Race 3 in the hope that the breeze would return and make the racing interesting. The conditions had not changed after the allotted time and it was agreed to abandon the racing for the day and contest the third race of Round Seven prior to the start of the Round Eight series of races on the 19th of October.

The leading positions after Seven and two-thirds Rounds of racing are as follows:

	Class A	Points	Class B	Points	Class C	Points
1 st	Nicholas Clayton	39	Anthony Sisley	49	Derek Filmer	35
2 nd	Dave Tucker	40	Chris Harding	63	John Thornycroft	45
	Paul				Derek	

3 rd	Cooper	72	Dave Chalk	64	Hutchinson	50
4 th	Colin Bird	81	Les May	93		
5 th	Dave Elsworth	84	Harry Hunt	97		
6 th	Eddi2 Marjoram	87	Greg Chalk	115		

Round Eight and the outstanding race from Round Seven will be contested on Sunday 19th October commencing at the usual time of 12.30 pm.

Sorry No Photographs